



April 30, 2019

Governor Brian Stitt  
2300 N Lincoln Blvd # 212  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Governor Stitt,

On behalf of those living with cystic fibrosis (CF), the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation urges you to support legislation allowing students living with CF to self-administer pancreatic enzymes while at school by signing Senate Bill 48.

Cystic fibrosis is a life-threatening genetic disease that affects approximately 315 Oklahomans and 30,000 children and adults in the United States. CF causes the body to produce thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs and digestive system, which can lead to life-threatening infections. As a complex, multi-system condition, people living with CF require targeted, specialized treatment and medications to maintain their health and well-being.

CF often impacts functioning of the pancreas – just as the lungs produce thick, sticky mucus, the pancreas also makes thick mucus that blocks the release of enzymes needed for digestion. As a result, more than 90 percent of people living with CF take pancreatic enzyme replacements to help digest the carbohydrates, proteins, and fats needed to maintain a healthy weight. Most people with CF need to take pancreatic enzyme capsules before every meal and snack so their bodies can digest the nutrients.

Current state law allows students to self-administer and carry asthma or anaphylaxis medication at school. This bill would expand the existing law to allow students with cystic fibrosis to self-administer replacement pancreatic enzymes at school, as long as they receive written permission from a parent.

By supporting SB 48, you will help alleviate social stigma for students living with CF and help improve adherence to care guidelines. Thank you for your attention to this important issue. Please consider the CF Foundation a resource moving forward.

Sincerely,

**Mary B. Dwight**  
Senior VP of Policy & Advocacy  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

**Lisa Feng, DrPH**  
Senior Director of Policy & Advocacy  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation